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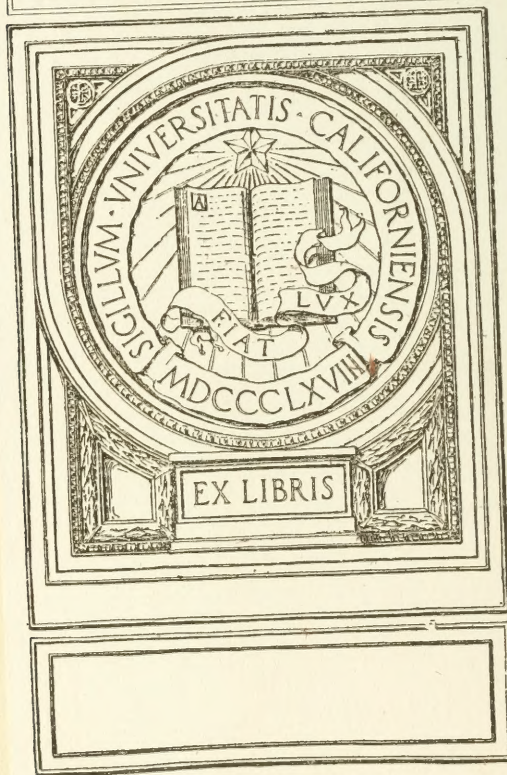
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# APIUS AND VIRGINIA

1575

THE MALONE SOCIETY  
REPRINTS

THE MALONE SOCIETY  
REPRINTS

1911



This reprint of *Apilus and Virginia* has been prepared by Ronald B. McKerrow with the assistance of the General Editor.

*Aug.* 1911.

W. W. Greg.

PR  
2411  
A7  
1911

THE following entry was made in the Register of the Stationers' Company during the year beginning in July 1567:

Recevyd of Rycharde Ionnes for his lycense for pryntinge of a Tragedy R Ionnes  
of Apius and virgine . . . . .<sup>iii</sup><sup>d</sup>  
[Arber's Transcript, I. 357.]

So far as is known, however, the edition printed for Jones by William How in 1575 was the first. It is here reprinted. Of the original three copies are recorded, one in the British Museum (C. 34. b. 2), and two in America. The Museum copy, which has formed the basis of the present reprint, has all its leaves except the last, which was presumably blank, but it has at some time been exposed to fire, and the margins of the leaves are scorched. Fortunately the amount of print lost is not great, but the first and last letters of a number of lines, especially towards the foot of the pages, as well as several catchwords, are wanting. Most of these it has been possible to supply from careful notes most kindly supplied by the owner of one of the American copies. Not all, however, since the copy in question unluckily wants most of D<sub>4</sub> and the whole of sheet E. It has not been possible to obtain information concerning the other American copy on account of the owner's absence from home.

The original is printed in black letter of the usual kind, presumably on a pica body (20 ll. = 82 mm.). This has, as in other cases, been represented in the reprint by small pica thin-leaded. But a special difficulty has occurred owing to the roman type which is found among the black letter. In the original this roman, like the black letter, is on a pica body, but the black letter used in the reprint, though practically, if not exactly, identical in face with that of the original, being on a

177437

small pica body, it was impossible to use roman pica in the same line with it, and small pica had, of course, to be substituted. But in the original this same roman pica is also used together with black letter of a larger size, namely english. To have represented it in this case likewise by small pica, would have exaggerated the disproportion, and the original size has therefore been retained. Pica has also been kept in the headline. It must therefore be borne in mind that both pica and small pica roman in the reprint represent pica in the original.

As to the authorship nothing definite is known. There were various writers with the initials R.B. in the middle of the seventeenth century, but no evidence has so far been adduced to connect any one of them with the present play.

In the Stationers' Register a 'ballett intituled the Terannye of Iudge apyvs' was entered to John Arnold in the course of the trade year 1569-70 [Arber's Transcript, I. 400].

The list of characters given on the title-page follows the order of appearance. Fame is omitted, presumably as being the same as Rumour.

The editor's thanks are due to Mr. Quaritch for kind assistance with regard to the American copies.



APIUS AND VIRGINIA.

page vi, line 13

*for* seventeenth *read* sixteenth

Malone Society

Oct. 1911.



# LIST OF IRREGULAR AND DOUBTFUL READINGS, ETC.

IN this list letters or words absent from the British Museum copy are indicated by square brackets: thus 'Ski[es,]' means that all after the i is wanting in that copy. Such of the missing letters or words as are supplied within the brackets are taken from the American copy: none are conjectural. An entry such as that under l. 1070 'E[' indicates that immediately after the signature E the paper is broken away, so that it is impossible to say whether there was a stop or not.

A comma or colon instead of a full stop at the end of a speech is not noticed: nor is the absence of a stop after a speaker's name.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 12. Ski[es,]  | 111. Virginius. ( <i>Here and frequently<br/>spelt with small v probably of<br/>another fount.</i> )   |
| 13. h[e lies,]  | 122. fortunate   |
| 19. h[eath,]  | 161. earth earth   |
| 24. name.   | 178. thjs.   |
| 25. fame,   | 189. fings   |
| 36. attempt.  | 194. persualitie,  |
| 39. god [do graunt vs leaue.]<br>( <i>Part of the last e remains.<br/>In the next line only the tops<br/>of FI visible.</i> ) | 201. Exit.   |
| 42. or Earth (? on Earth)   | 210. youth.  |
| 46. [A]s  | 211. student   |
| 47. [Th]ey  | 225. cocke.  |
| 48. [A pe]ece   | 236. get.  |
| 49. [From] ( <i>Part of m remains.</i> )<br>you, (? youth,)   | 246. c.w. [Man-] ( <i>Only part of M.</i> )  |
| 50. [And w] ( <i>Part of w remains.</i> )   | 291. packing   |
| 51. [And a]th   | 338. Supseruus,  |
| 52. [Not d]aintly   | 352. come ?  |
| 53. [Wh]erfore  | 353. hazarde. ( <i>Stop doubtful.</i> )<br>c.w. Man- ( <i>Hyphen doubtful,<br/>may be full stop.</i> ) |
| 54. [Co]  | 386. the[e,]<br>c.w. [Who]   |
| 55. [By]  | 400. chaunge.  |
| 56. [Bo]th  | 408. Exit.   |
| 73. mournig   | 417. fature.   |
| 76. Glope   | 420. such  |
| 103. Virginius. (?)   | 421. [Dr] why di[dst tho]u<br>deceued  |
| 109. c.w. Mater[ ( <i>Only small por-<br/>tion of r visible.</i> )  |  |



431. baath  
 446. Marcury,  
 463. Iubiter,  
 480. e nuade  
 497. mouſe  
 501. s.n. rhogh  
 503. s.n. Con-fince (?)  
 510. man?  
 530. health  
 564. happen.  
 566. Apius.  
 601. Morpheus:  
 611. imbace:  
 639. perturbauce,  
 659. theu (?)  
 666. dath  
 708. crie (*Perhaps trace of stop.*)  
 730. Andat Sy mkins  
 743. finde. it (*Possibly space risen  
up.*)  
 749. douout,  
 789. me?  
 828. Crowne, (*Stop doubtful.*)  
 829. perſupetat  
 834. finde  
 841. amended  
 854. scaffold  
 860. feares  
 866. c.w. [re:]  
 897. clay  
 925. a ccoꝝding,  
 931. treasure?  
 935. c.w. Virg[inius.]  
 955. kn ife:  
 970. ꝑ[ow]  
 997. ſhifte  
 D4 r.t. Tragi call  
 1011. Car ni fex,  
 1036. Leche rous  
 1040. Salt  
 1054. ſlack  
 1057. laughter  
 1070. ſig. E[  
 1074. Viginus  
 1086. Virgnius,  
 1100. werings[  
 1126. berely  
 1140. Je lyke  
 1146. erpe dient,  
 1150. ſight.  
 1192. wright  
 1197. A d (*Hole in paper.*)  
 1199. Jwarde  
 ſtryf[  
 c.w. Fa[  
 1206. hain[

A new Tragicall Comedie  
of *Apus and Virginia*,

Wherein is lively expressed a rare  
example of the vertue of Chastitie,  
by Virginias constancy, in wishing  
rather to be slaine at her owne Fa-  
thers hands, then to be deflow-  
red of the wicked Iudge  
Apus.

By R. B.

The Players names.

Virginus.	Conscience.
Mater.	Iustice.
Virginia.	Claudius.
Haphazard.	Rumour.
Mansipulus.	Corr-fotte.
Mansipula.	Rewarde.
Subseruus.	Doctrina.
Apus.	Memorie.

Imprinted at London, by Wil-  
liam How, for Richard Ihones.

1575.





A new Tragicall Comedie

Fame.

Then sing we round about the Tome in honour of hir name,

Reward.

Content we are with willing minde to sing with sound of Fame.

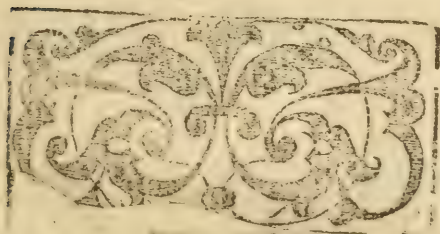
¶ The Epilogue.

A earthly life is granted none for euermore to raigne,  
But denting death wil cause them al to grant this world as bai  
Right worshipfull sith sure it is that mortall life must vade,  
Do practise then to winne his loue that all in all hath made:  
And by this Poets faining here example do you take,  
Of Virginias life, of chasteitie, of duty to thy make.  
Of loue to wife, of loue to spouse, of loue to husband deare,  
Of bringing by of tender youth, all these are noted heare:  
I doubt it not right worshipful, but well you do conceiue,  
The matter that is ended now, and thus I take my leaue:  
Beseeching God as dutie is, our gracious Quene to saue,  
The Nobles, and the commons eke, with prosperous life I craue;

¶ FINIS.

*Imprinted at London, by Wil-*  
liam How, for Richard Iohnes.

1575.





A new Tragicall Comedie  
*of Apius and Virginia,*

Wherein is lively expressed a rare  
example of the vertue of Chastitie,  
by Virginias constancy, in wishing  
rather to be slaine at her owne Fa-  
thers handes, then to be deflow-  
red of the wicked Iudge  
Apius.

By R. B.

The Players names.

Virinius.	Conscience.
Mater.	Iustice.
Virginia.	Claudius.
Haphazard.	Rumour.
Manfipulus.	Comforte.
Manfipula.	Rewarde.
Subseruus.	Doctrina.
Apius.	Memorie.

*Imprinted at London, by Wil-*  
liam How, for Richard Ihones.

1575.





## The Prologue.

Qui cupis æthereas & summas scandere sedes  
 Vim simul ac fraudem discute chare tibi.  
 Fraus hic nulla iuuat, nō fortia facta iuuabūt,  
 Sola Dei tua te trahat, terse fides.  
 Qui placet in terris intactæ palludis instar,  
 Viuere Virginiam nitore virgo sequi,  
 Quos tulit & luctus, discas gaudia magna  
 Vitæ, dum parcè scinder fila parent.  
 Huc ades ô virgo, pariter moritura sepulchro,  
 Sic ait, & faciem pallida morte mutat.

10

Who doth desire the trump of fame, to sound vnto the Skies,  
 Or els who seekes the holy place, where mighty Ioue he lies,  
 He must not by deceitfull mind, nor yet by puissant strength,  
 But by the faith and sacred lyfe, he must it win at length,  
 And what she be that virgins lyfe, on earth wold gladly leade,  
 The stude that Virginia did fall, I with her reade,  
 Her dolle and hir dolefull losse, and yet her ioyes at death,  
 Come Virgins pure to graue with mee, quoth she with latest breath,  
 You Lordings all that present be, this Tragicdie to heare,  
 Note well what zeale and loue, heerein doth well appeare,  
 And Ladies you that linked are, in wedlocke bandes for euer,  
 Do imitate the life you see, whose fame will perish neuer,  
 But Virgins you, oh Ladies faire, for honour of your name.  
 Doo lead the life apparent heere, to win immortall fame,  
 Let not the blinded God of Loue, as Poets tearme him so,  
 Nor Venus with her venery, nor Lechoys cause of wo  
 Your Virgins name to spot or file: deare dames obserue the like,  
 That faire Verginia did obserue, who rather with the knife,  
 Of fathers hand hir life to ende, then spot her chastety:  
 As she did waile, waile you her want you maids of courtesie.  
 If any by example heere, would thin that great anoy,  
 Our Authour would reioyce in hart, and we would leape for ioy,  
 Would Gods that our indeuer may, as well to please your eares,  
 As is our Auctoys meaning heere, then were we boyde of feares:  
 But patiently wee wish you beare with this our first attempt.  
 Which surely will to do our best, then yeeld vs no contempt,  
 And as you please in patient wise, our first for to receiue,  
 Ere long a better shall you win, if god do graunt vs leaue.

20

30

FINIS. A. ij.

## Enter Virginius.

- 41 **B**Efore the time that fortunes lot, dyd shew ech fate his dome,  
 Of Byrde, or Beast, or fish, or foule, or Earth had taken come:  
 The Gods they did decree to frame, the thing is ended now,  
 The Heauens, and the Planets eke, and moyst from ayre to bow.  
 Then framed they y man of mould & clay, & gaue him time to raigñ,  
 As seemed best their sacred minds, to runne and turne againe:  
 They framed also after this, out of his tender side,  
 A peece of much formositie, with him for to abide:  
 From infancie to lusty you, and so to raigne awhile,  
 50 And well to liue, tyl Etas he vnwares, do him begyle.  
 And sith to see these giftes of them, on grounded caue to betw,  
 Not daintyly to deck them vp, which after they may reu:  
 Wherfore I thank the Gods aboue, that yeeld to mee such fate,  
 To lincke to mee so iust a spouse, and eke so louing mate.  
 By her I haue a virgin pure, an ympe of heauenly race,  
 Both sober, meeke, and modest too, and vertuous in lyke case:  
 To Temple will I wend therfore, to yeeld the Gods their praise,  
 For that they haue thus luckely, anered with my daies.  
 But stay, behold the peerelesse sparks wherof my tongue dyd talke,  
 60 Approch in presence of my sight, to church I deeme they walk,  
 But stay I wyll, and shroud me secretly a while,  
 To see what witte or counsell graue, proceedeth from their stile.

**¶** Heere entreth Mater and Virginia.

- The perte and picking prime of youth, ought chastiment to haue,  
 But thou deare daughter needest not, thy self doth shew thee graue:  
 To se how Phœbus with his beames, hath youth so much infected,  
 It doth me woe to see them craue the thing should be detected.  
 I draw to graue, and naught can leaue of thee to be desired,  
 As much as duty to thy deare, as reason hath required:  
 70 Thy sufferent Lord and frindly feare, Virginius father thine,  
 To nourle as doth become a childe, when boanes are buried mine.

Virginius,

Refel your minde of mournig plaints, deare mother rest your minde  
 For

of Apius and Virginia.

For though that duty dainty were, dame nature will me binde,  
So much to do, and further force, of Gods that rule the Skies,  
The Glope and eke the Element, they would me els dispies.

Mater.

Then if the Gods haue graunted thee, such grace to loue thy syer,  
When time shall choole thee out a make he constant I requier:  
Loue, liue, and lyke him well, before you graunt him grace or faith, 80  
So shall your loue continue long, experience thus he saith.

Virginia.

I graunt deare Dame I doo agree,  
When time shall so prouide:  
But tender youth and infancie,  
Doth rather wish me bide,  
What should I lose Dianas gifte,  
And eke the spring to Hun:  
By which Acteon fateally,  
His finall race did run: 90  
Should I as abiect be esteemed,  
Througout Pernassus hill,  
Or should my Virgins name be silde,  
It were to great a skyll:  
But yet it is vnspotted loe,  
Right well I doo conceaue,  
When wedlocke doth require the same,  
With parents loue and leaue:  
Yet obstinate I wyll not be,  
But willing will me yeeld:  
When you commaund and not before  
Then duety shall me sheeld.

Virginus.

Ah Gods that rule and raine, in heauens, in seas, in fiods and lands,  
Two couple such I surely deeme, you neuer made with hands,  
A Gods why doo ye not compel eche Dame the lyke to howe?  
And euery I meef her againe, her duty thus to know,  
I cannot stay my tounge from talke, I needes must call my deare,  
Oh spouse wel met & Daughter to, what newes how do you cheare?

Mater



A new Tragicall Comedie

110

Mater

O deare Virginius Joy to me, oh pearcellesse spouse and mate,  
In health I praise the Gods I am and ioifull for thy state,  
Virginius.

Virginia my daughter deare  
How standeth all with thee?

Virginia.

Like happie state as mother tolde,  
Like ioifull sight to mee.

Virginius.

120

By the Gods wife I ioi me, that haue such a treasure,  
Such Gemme and such Iuell, surmounting all measure :  
Such a happy spouse, such a fortunat dame,  
That no blot or staine, can impayre her fame,  
Against such an Impe, and graspe of my tree,  
As cleare doth surmount all others that bee.

Mater.

Pay rather deare spouse how much is my case,  
To be now aduanced by such happy grace :  
Doth dayly distill, my husband so louing,

130

Graunting and geuing to all thing behouing,  
Ioying in me, and in the fruite of my wombe.  
Who would not requit it, the Gods peeelde their dome  
And if it be I, the Gods doo destroy mee,  
Rather then sinne, to soe should annoy me.

Virginius.

Oh wife refell thy wishing for woe,  
My selfe thy faulte rightwell do know :  
And rather I wish my selfe to be staine,  
Then thou or thy daughter ought wo should sustaine.

140

Virginia.

Oh Father my comfort, oh Mother my ioy,  
Oh Deare, and O sufferaigne, do cease to employ  
Such dolorus talking, where dangers are none,  
Where Ioyes are attendant, what needeth this mone,

How



of Apius and Virginia.

You matron, you spouse, you Nurse, and you wife,  
You comfort, you only the some of his lyfe:  
You housband, you harte, you ioye, and you pleasure,  
You King, and you Keyser, to her only treasure,  
You Father, you Mother, my lyfe doth sustaine,  
I babe and I blisse, your health am againe,  
Forbeare then your dolor, let mirth be frequented  
Let sorrow departe, and be not attempted.

150

Virginus.

Oh wife, oh spouse, I am contente.

Mater.

Oh Husband.

Virginia.

Oh Father wee doo consent.

Sing heere.

All sing this.

160

The trustiest treasure in earth earth as wee see,  
Is man, wife and children in one to agree,  
Then friendly, and kindly, let measure be mixed  
With reason, in season, where friendship is fixed.

Virginus.

When nature nursed first of all, yong Alexander learned,  
Of who the Poets mention make, in iudgement so deserved,  
Oh what did want that loue procured his vital end well neare,  
This is the hope where parents loue, their children do not feare,

All sing this.

170

The trustiest treasure in earth as wee see,  
Is man wife and children &c.

Mater.

When time King Nisus would not let, his daughter to be taught,  
Of any one correcting hand to nurture to be brought:  
She void of duty cut his lockes, and golden tresses cleare,  
Whereby his realme was ouerrun, and she was payd her hier,

All

A new Tragicall Comedie

All sing this.

The trustiest treasure in earth as we see,  
180 Is man wife and childzen. &c

Virginia.

When Dedalus from Creete did flie,  
With Icarus his soj:  
He naught regarding fathers words,  
Did seeke his owne anoy:  
He mounted vp into the skies,  
Wherat the Gods did crowne,  
And Phoebus soze his winges did drie,  
And hedlonge flings him downe.

190 All singe this.

The trustiest treasure in earth as we see,  
Is man wife and childzen &c.

Virginus.

Then sith that persualitie, doth partly discorde moue,  
And hatred often times doth creepe where ouermuch wee loue:  
And if we loue no whit at all, the flaming trump will sound,  
Come wise, come spouse, come daughter deare, let measure beare y<sup>e</sup>  
(ground.)

All singe this.

The trustiest treasure in earth as we see  
200 Is man wife and childzen in one to agree,  
Then friendly, and kindly, let measure be mixed,  
With reason, in reason, where frindship is fixed.

Exit.

Sc. ii

Here entreth Haphazard the Vice.

Very well sir, very well sir, it shalbe doone,  
As fast as euer I can prepare,  
Who dippes with the Diuel, he had neede haue a long spoone,  
Or els full smale will be his fare:  
Yet a proper Gentleman I am of truthe  
Hea that may yee see by my long side gone,

Hea

Pea but what am I, a Scholer, or a scholemaster, or els some pouth. 210

A Lawier, a student or els a countrie clowne

A Bumman, a Baskit maker, or a Baker of Pies,

A flesh or a fishmonger, or a sower of lies :

A Loue or a louser, a Lecke or a Larke :

A Dreamer a Dominell, a fire or a sparke :

A Caitife, a Cutthrote, a creper in corners,

A herbaïne, a hangman, or a grafter of hoyners :

By the Gods, I know not how best to deuise,

My name or my property, well to disguise :

A Marchaunte, a May poole, a man or a mackrell :

220

A Crab or a Creuise, a Crane or a cockerell :

Most of all these my nature doth inioy,

Somtime I aduance the m, somtime I destroy,

A mayde or a Mussell Vot, a wife or a wilde ducke,

As bolde as blinde bayerd, as wise as a wood cocke.

As fine as phippence, as proude as a Pecoche,

As stout as a Stockefish, as meeke as a mecocke,

As bigge as a begger, as fat as a foole,

As true as a Tinker, as riche as an Owle,

With hey tricke, how trowle, troy trip, and troy trace,

230

Trowle hazard in a vengeance I bestiew his knaues face

Foꝛ tro, and trowle hazard, keepe such a range

That pooꝛe haphazard, was neuer so strange,

But yet Haphazard, be of good cheere,

Goe play and repast thee man, be mery to yeere :

Though bittaille be dainty and hard foꝛ to get.

Yet perhaps a number will die of the swet,

Though it be in hazard, yet happely I may,

Though mony be lacking, yet one day go gay.

¶ Enter Manipulus.

240

When Maud, with a pestelence, what makst thou no hast ?

Of Baybery insence belike thou wouldest tast,

By the Gods I haue stayed a full great while,

My lorde he is neare hand by this at the Church stile,

And al foꝛ Maud mumble turde, that mampodding madge

By the Gods if she hie not, ile geue her my badge.



The Tragicall Comedie

Manfipula.

What drake nosed dyuell, begin you to floute,  
He drie you in a fagot sticke, by cocke goodman loute  
250 You boaster you bragger, you bawling knaue :  
He pay thee thy fortpence, thou bawling slaue:  
My Ladies great busines belike is at ende,  
When you goodman dawcocke, lust for to wend,  
You, codshed you crackerope, you chattering ppe,  
Haue with ye, haue at ye, your manhode to try.

Haphazard.

What holde your hands masters, what? sie for shame sie,  
What culling? what lulling? what stir haue wee here?  
What tugging? what lugging? what pugging by the eare,  
260 What part and be freinds, and ende all this strife,

Manfipulus.

May rather I wishe hir, the end of my knife :

Manfipula.

Drawe it, geue mee it, I will it receaue,  
So that for to place it, I might haue good leaue,  
By the Gods: but for losing my land, lyfe, and liuing,  
It should be so placed, he should haue ill thriuinge:

Manfipilus.

By the Gods how bngaciouly the vicklen she chatteth,  
270

Manfipula.

And he euen as knauishly, my answer he patteth,

Haphazard.

Here is naught els, but railing of words out of reason,  
Now tugging, now tatling, now musling in season,  
For shame be contented and leaue of this bawling,

Manfipulus.

Content, for I shall repent it, for this my tonge wralling:

Manfipula.

Thou knaue, but for thee, ere this time of day,  
280 My Ladies faire Due, had been strawed full gay:  
With Primroses, Coulips, and Violets sweete:  
With Mints, and with Marigolds, and Margerum meete,

Which



of Apius and Virginia.

Which now lyeth vncleanly and all long of thee,  
That a shame recompence thee, for hindring mee,  
Manipulus.

Ah pietie prauke paniel, the Coushen and Booke,  
Whereon he shoulde reade and kneele, are present here looke:  
My Lorde when he seeth mee, he will cast such an eye,  
As pinch wyll my hart neare ready to die:  
And thus wise, and thus wise, his hand wyll be walking  
With thou precious knaue, away get thee packing  
Here let hym fight.

290

Haphazard.

Play then by the masse, its time to be knocking,  
No words at all but to me he is poyniting:  
Play haue at you againe, you shall haue your annoynting,  
Manipula.

Body of me, hold yf ye can,  
What will you kill such a proper man?

Haphazard.

300

Play sure I haue done when women do speake,  
Why would the knaue my patience so breake?

Manipulus.

Well I must begon, there is no remedy  
For feare my taylor makes buttons, by mine honesty.

Haphazard.

For reuerence on your face, your nose and your chin:  
By the Gods haue ye hard such an vnmanly villin.

Manipula.

I neuer heard one so rancke of rudnesse,

310

Manipulus.

In faith it is but for lacke of lewdnesse:  
But here I burne day light, while thus I am talking  
A way come Manipula, let vs be walking,

Manipula

Contented Manipulus, haue with thee with speede,

Haphazard.

Play stay yet my freendes I am not agreede.

B.ij.

Man-

The Tragicall Comedie

Manipula.

320 Wee dare not tary, by God wee sweare.

Haphazard.

May tarry take comfort with you for to beare,  
It is but in hazard and yf you be mist,  
And so it may happen you feele not his list:  
Perhaps he is stayde by talke with some friend  
It is but in hazarde, then sing or you wend  
Let hope be your helper, your care to defend.

Manipulus.

By hap or by hazard, we singe or we crie,  
330 Then singe let vs say so, let sorrow go by.

Manipula.

We can be but beaten that is the worst,

¶ Enter Subseruus.

What how Manipulus, thou knaue art thou curst?  
My lord standeth talking and I gape for thee,  
Come away with a wannion, runne hast and hie,

Manipulus.

May herken Supseruus, stay I pray thee,  
Let vs haue a song and then haue with thee:

340 Subseruus.

Content if thou hie thee.

¶ Sing heere all.

Hope so, and hap so, in hazard of thyetninge,  
The worst that can hap so, in end is but beating.

Manipulus.

What if my Lordinge, doo chaunce for to misse me,  
The worst that can happen, is Cudgell will kisse mee,  
In such kinde of sweetnes, I sweare by Gods mother,  
It will please me better, it were on some other,

350 With thwicke thwack, with thump thump,  
with hobbing and bum,

Our syde saddle shoulders shal sheilde that doth come?

Hope so, and hap so, in hazarde. &c.

Man-

of Apius and Virginia.

Manfipula.

¶ If case that my Lady, do threaten my case,  
No cause to contrary, but beare hir a space,  
Untill she draw home lo, where so she will vse me,  
As Docters doth doubt it, how I should excuse me,  
With thwicke thwack, with thump thump,  
With bobbing and bum,  
Our side saddle Shoulders shal sheilde that doth come.  
Hope so, and hap so, in hazard &c.

360

Subseruus.

¶ What if your company cause me haue woo,  
I minde not companions so soone to forgo:  
Let hope holde the Helmet, till bzunt it be past,  
For bloes are but buffits and words but a blast,  
With thwick thwack, with thump thump,  
With bobbing and bum,  
Our side saddle Shoulders shal sheild that doth come,  
Hope so, and hap so, in hazard &c.

370

Haphazard.

¶ Then let vs be mery, it is but by hap,  
A hazardly chaunce may harbor a clap,  
Bestur ye, be mery, be glad and be ioying,  
For bloes are but buffits and smale time annoying,  
With thwick thwack, with thump thump,  
With bobbing and bum,  
Our side saddle Shoulders shal sheild that doth come.  
Hope so, and hap so, in hazard &c.

380

¶ The end of the song.

All speaketh this.

Haphazard farewell, the Gods do thanke thee. Exiunt.

Haphazard.

Farwell my friends, farwell goe plancke yee:  
By the Gods Haphazard, these men haue tried thee,

Who



A new Tragicall Comedie

Who sayd thou wast no man, sure he belied thee,  
 By loue master Marchant by sea or by land,  
 Would get but smale argent, if I did not stand,  
 390 His very good master, I may say to you,  
 When he hazards in hope, what hap will insue:  
 In court I am no man, by cocke sit ye lie,  
 A Plowman perhaps or ere that he die,  
 May hap be a Gentleman, a Courtier or Captaine,  
 And hap may so hazard, he may goe a begging:  
 Perhaps that a Gentleman, heyre to great land,  
 Which selleth his liuing, for mony in hand,  
 In hazard it is the bying of more,  
 Perhaps he may ride when spent is the store:  
 400 Hap may so hazard the Moone may so chaunge.  
 That men may be masters, and wiues will not raunge:  
 But in hazard it is in many a grange.  
 Lest wiues were the Codpeece, and maydens coy strange:  
 As Pecoakes sit perking, by chaunce in the plomtree,  
 So maides would be masters, by the guile of this countrey  
 Haphazard etche state full well that he markes,  
 If hap the skie fall, we hap may haue Larkes:  
 Well, fare ye well now, for better or worse, Exit.  
 Put hands to your pockets, haue minde to your purse.

Sc. iii

¶ Enter Iudge Apius.

411 The sorowed face of Fortunes force, my pinching paine doth moue  
 I settled ruler of my realme inforced am to loue:  
 Iudge Apius I the princelest Iudge, that raigneth vnder sonne,  
 And haue bene so esteemed long, but now my force is done:  
 I rule no more, but ruled am, I do not Iudge, but am Iudged,  
 By beuty of Virginia, my wilddome all is trudged,  
 Oh perelesse Dame, Oh passing peece, oh face of such a sature.  
 That neuer erst with bewty such, matched was by nature:  
 Oh fond Apelles prattling foole, why boastest thou so much?  
 420 The samost peece thou madst in Greece, whose liments were such  
 Or why didst thou deceued man, for beuty of thy worke?

In



of Apius and Virginia.

In such a sort with fond desire, where no kinde lyfe dyd lurke,  
 With raging fits thou foole ran mad, oh fond Pigmalion,  
 Yet sure if that thou sawest my deare, the like y<sup>e</sup> couldst make none,  
 Then what may I, oh Gods above, bend downe to heare my crie,  
 As once he did to Salmasis, in Pond hard Lyzia by:  
 Oh that Virginia were in case as sometime Salmasis,  
 And in Hermafroditus steede, my selfe might seeke my blisse,  
 Ah Gods, would I vnfolde her armes, complecting of my necke?  
 Or would I hurt her nimble hand, or peeelde her such a checke?  
 Would I gainesay hir tender skinne, to baath where I do washe?  
 Or els refuse hir soft sweete lippes, to touch my naked fleshe?  
 Nay, oh the Gods do know my minde, I rather would requier,  
 To sue, to serue, to crouch, to kneele, to craue for my desier.  
 But out ye Gods, ye bende your browes, and frowne to see me fare,  
 Ye do not force my sickle fate, ye do not way my care,  
 Unrighteous, and vnequall Gods, vnjust, and eke vnure,  
 Woe worth the time ye made me liue, to see this haplesse houre:  
 Dyd Iphis hang himselte for loue, of Lady not so faire?  
 Or els did Ioue the cloudie mistes, bend downe from lightsome ayre: 430  
 Or as the Poets mencion make, of Inachs daughter meeke,  
 For loue dyd he to make a Cowe, whom Inach long dyd seeke:  
 Is loue so great, to cause the quicke, to enter into Hell,  
 As stout Orpheus did attempt, as histories do tell?  
 Then what is it that loue cannot? why loue dyd pearce the skies:  
 Why Pheb. and famous Mercury, with loue had blinded eyes?  
 But I a Iudge of grounded peeres, shall reape to me such name,  
 As shall resounde dishonour great, with Trump of carelesse fame:  
 Oh that my peeres were youthfull yet, or that I were vnwedded.

Where entreteth Haphazard.

450

Why cease sir Knight, for why perhaps, of you she shalbe bedded:  
 For solow my counsell, so may you me please,  
 That of carefull resurging, your hart shall haue ease.

Apus.

Oh thundring Gods that threaten ye,  
 and Plague for eche offence:

Your

A new Tragicall Comedie

Your selues I deeme would counsell craue,  
in this so fit pretence:  
And eke your nimble stretched armes,  
460 with great rewards would lie,  
To purchase faire Virginia,  
so deare a wight to me:  
And friend, I sweare by Iubiter,  
and eke by Iunos seate:  
And eke by all the misteries,  
where on thou canst intreate:  
Thou shalt possesse and haue,  
I will thee graunt and geue,  
The greatest part of all my Realme,  
470 for aye thee to releue.

Haphazard.

Well then, this is my counsell, thus standeth the case,  
Perhaps such a fetch, as may please your grace:  
There is no more wayes, but hap or hap not,  
Either hap, or els haplesse, to knit by the knot:  
And if you will hazard, to venter what falles,  
Perhaps, that Haphazard, will end al your thalles.

Apus.

I meane so, I will so, if thou do perswade me,  
480 To hap or to hazard, what thing shall enuade me:  
I King, and I Keyser, I rule and ouerwealme:  
I do what it please me, with in this my realme:  
Wherefore in thy iudgement, see that thou do enter,  
Hap life or hap death, I surely will venter.

Haphazard.

Then this, and in this sorte, standeth the matter,  
What neede many wordes, vnlesse I should flatter,  
Full many there be, will hazarde their life,  
Happely to ease your grace of all your strife,  
490 Of this kinde of conspirasie now let vs common,  
Some man, Virginius, before you must summon,  
And say that Virginia is none of his Daughter.

But

of Apius and Virginia.

But that Virginius by night away caught her :  
Then charge you the father his Daughter to bringe,  
Then do you detayne hir, till proued be the thing:  
Which well you may win hir, the present in house,  
It is but Haphazard, a man or a mouse

Apius.

I finde it, I minde it, I sweare that I will,  
Though shame, or defame, do happen no skill,  
But out I am wounded, how am I deuised?  
Two states of my life, from me are now glided,  
For Conscience he picketh me contempned, (ned:  
And Justice saith, Judgement wold haue me condem  
Conscience saith crueltye sure will detest me:  
And Justice saith, death in thende will molest me,  
And both in one sodden me thinke they do crie,  
That fier eternall, my soule shall destroy.

Haphazard.

Why these are but thoughts man? why fie for shame fie  
For Conscience was careless, and sayling by seas,  
Was drowned in a basket and had a disease,  
Soe moued for pitye, when he would graunt none,  
For beyng hard harted, was turned to a stone:  
And sayling by Sandwich he sunke for his sin,  
Then care not for conscience, the worth of a pin:  
And Judgement iudge Justice to haue a reward,  
For iudging still iustly, but all is now marde,  
For giftes they are geuen, wher Judgement is none,  
Thus Judgement and Justice awrye way hath gone:  
Then care not for Conscience the worth of a fable,  
Justice is no man, nor nought to do able.

Apius.

And saiest thou so my lured freende, then hap as hap shall hit,  
Let Conscience grope, & iudgement craue, I wil not think one whit  
I well perseuer in my thought, I will deslower hir youth,  
I will not sure reuerted be, my hart shall haue no ruth,  
Come on proceede and wayte on me, I will hap woe or wealth,

C.

Hap

Here let him  
make as rhogh 500  
he went out  
and let Con-  
science and Iu-  
stice come out  
of him, and let  
Conscience hold  
in his hande a  
Lamp burning  
and let Iustice  
haue a sworde  
and hold it be- 510  
fore Apius  
breft.

520



The Tragicall Comedie

Hap blunt, hap sharp, hap life, hap death, though Haphazard be of  
 530 Haphazard. (health)

At hand (quoth picke purse) here redy am I,  
 See well to the Cut Purse, be ruled by me.

Conscience.

Exit. Go outthere.

O cleare vnspotted giftes of Ioue,  
 How haps thou art refused?  
 Oh Conscience cleare, what cruell minde  
 Thy truth hath thus misuled?  
 I spotted am by wilfull will,  
 By lawles loue and luste  
 540 By dreadfull daunger of the life.  
 By faith that is vnjust.

Iustice.

Ah gift of Ioue, ah Fortunes face,  
 Ah state of steddy life:  
 I Iustice am and Prince of peeres,  
 The end of Lawes and strife:  
 A guider of the common weale,  
 A gwerdon to the poore:  
 And yet hath filthy lust suppress,  
 550 My vertues in one houre,  
 Well well this is the most to trust,  
 In ende we shall espire:  
 To see the end of these our foes  
 With sword and eke with fire.

Conscience.

Oh help ye Gods, we members require.

Exit.

Sc. *iv* ¶ Enter Haphazard.

When gayne is no granter,  
 And gaudes naught let by:  
 560 For Buddings, nor Pie meate,  
 Poore knaues will come nie:  
 Then hap and Haphazard,  
 Shall haue a new cote:  
 And so it may happen.

of Apius and Virginia.

To cut couetousnesse throte:  
Hea then shall Iudge Apius.  
Virginia obtayne:  
And Geese shall cracke Huskels,  
Perhaps in the rayne:  
Lerkes shalbe Leuerets,  
And skip to and fro:  
And chourles shalbe codheads,  
Perhaps and also:  
But peace for mans body,  
Haphazard be mum,  
Fie prating noddie,  
Iudge Apius is come.

570

¶ Here entreth Iudge Apius  
and Claudius.

The furies tell of Lymbo Lake,  
my Princely daies doo shote:  
All downde in deadly woes I liue,  
that once dyd ioy in sport,  
I liue and languish in my lyfe,  
as doth the wounded Deare:  
I thirst, I craue, I call and crie,  
and yet am naught the neare:  
And yet I haue that me so match,  
within the Realme of mine:  
But Tantalus amidst my care,  
I hunger sterue and pine:  
As Sisyphus I roule the stone,  
in vaine to top of Hill:  
That euermore vncertainly,  
reuoluing lideth still:  
Oh, as if to her it were to me,  
what labours would I die?  
What raging seas would I not plow,  
to her commoditie?

580

590

C.ij.

But



The Tragicall Comedie

600 But out alas I doubt it soe,  
 lest drouly Morpheus:  
 His slumby kingdomes graunted hath,  
 with Dewes and bewtious:  
 Oh Gods aboue that rule the Skies,  
 ye Babes that hagg in blisse:  
 Ye Goddesses, ye Graces you,  
 what burning hunt is this?  
 Bend downe your Ire, destroy me quicke:  
 or els to graunt me grace,  
 610 No more but that my burning herte,  
 Virginia may imbace:  
 If case your eares be dead and deafe,  
 the feende and sprites below:  
 You carelesse carls of Limbo Lake,  
 your forced mightes doo thoe.  
 Thou Caitife Kinge of darksome den,  
 thou Pluto plaged knaue:  
 Send forth thy sacred vengeaunce straight,  
 consume them to the graue:  
 620 That will not aide my case,  
 Claudius.

Content and if it like your grace,  
 I will attempt the deede:  
 I common will Virginius,  
 befoe your seat with speede,  
 Haphazard.

Do so, my Lorde be you not afrayde,  
 And so you may happen to Hazard the mayde:  
 It is but in Hazard, and may come by hap,  
 630 Win her, or lose her, trie you the trap.  
 Apius.

By the Gods, I consent to thee Claudius now  
 Prepare the in haste Virginius vnto,  
 Charge him, commaund him, vpon his alegeance

With

of Apius and Virginia.

With all kinde of speede, to yeelde his obeyſance,  
Before my ſeate in my conſtary  
Subpene of lande, life and treaſurie.

Here let Claudius go out with Haphazard.

No let, no ſtay, nor ought perturbance,  
Shall cauſe me to omit the furtheraunce,  
Of this my waighly charge:

Exit.

640

Apus.

Well now I range at large my will for to expreſſe,  
For looke how Torquin, Lucres faire, by force did once oppreſſe,  
Euen ſo will I Virginia ble:

Here let Conſcience ſpeake within.

Judge Apus prince, oh ſtay reſuſe,  
Be ruled by thy friende:  
What bloody death with open ſhame,  
Did Torquin gaine in ende?

650

Apus.

Whence doth this pinching ſounde deſende?

Conſcience.

From contrit Conſcience pricked on,  
By member of thy lye,  
Enforced for to cry and call,  
And all to end our ſtriſe.

Apus.

What art thou then declare be breefe?

Conſcience.

660

Not fleſh nor filthy luſt I am:  
But ſecret conſcience I,  
Compeld to crie with trimbling ſoule,  
At point nere hand to die.

Apus.

Why no diſeaſedath me aproche, no grieſe doth make me grudge,  
But want of faire Virginia, whoſe beauty is my Judge:  
By hir I liue, by hir I die, for hir I ioy or woe,

C.iii.

For

A new Tragicall Comedie

For hir my soule doth sinke or swimme, for hir I sweare I goe.

670

Conscience.

Ah Gods, what wittes doth raine, and yet to you vnknownen?  
I die the death, and soule doth sinke, this filthy flesh hath sownen.

Apus.

I force it not, I wyll attempt, I stay for Claudius heare,  
Per wyll I goe to meete with him, to know what newes and cheare.

Sc. v

¶ Here entreth Haphazard.

Hast for a hangman, in hazard of hempe  
Runne for a ridducke, there is no such impe:  
Claudius is knocking, with hammer and stone,

680

At Virginius gate, as hard as he can lay one:  
By the Gods my maisters, Haphazard is hardy,  
For he will run rashly, be they neuer so many,  
Pea he wyll singe sowt knowt, and sknap with the best,  
But peace, who comes ponder, what Ioly good gest?

¶ Here enter in with a songe.

When men will seeme misdoubtfully,  
Without an why, to call and cry,  
And fearing with temerety, its ieopardy, of libertie,  
Wee with him take to chere his hart, Haphazard,  
690 Boulde blinde bayarde,  
A fygge for his vncourtesie,  
That seekes to shun good company.

Manipulus.

What if case that cruelty, should bussell me, and iussell mee,  
And Holywand should tickle me, for keeping of good companye:  
Ile solow by my honestie, hap Haphazard, bould blinde bayard,  
A sigge for his vncourtesie, that seekes to shun good companie.

All singe this.

700

When men wyll seeme misdoubtfully,  
Without an why, to call and crie. &c.

Manfi-

of Apius and Virginia.

Manfipula.

Neuer was that miſteris, ſo ſurious nor curious,  
Nor yet hir bloes ſo boiſterous, nor roſterous, nor dolorous,  
But ſure I would venterous, hap Haphazard, bould blinde bayard  
A ſigge for his vncourteſie, that ſeekes to ſhun good companie.

All ſinge this.

When men wyll ſeeme miſdoubtfully,

Withouth an why, to call and crye &c.

Haphazard.

Then wend ye on and ſolow me, Manfipula, Manfipula.

710

Let cropyng cares be caſt away, come ſolow me, come ſolow me,  
Subſeruus is a ioyly loute, byace Haphazard bould blinde bayarde,  
A ſigge for his vncourteſie, that ſeekes to ſhun good company.

All ſing this.

When men will ſeeme miſdoubtfully,

Withouth an why, to call and cry. &c.

The end of the ſong.

Heere Haphazard ſpeaketh.

I by the Gods my mayſters, I tould you plaine,  
Who companyes with me, will deſire me agayne:  
But how dyd ye ſpeede I pray ye ſhew me,  
Was all well agreed, did no body blow ye.

720

Manſipulus.

Haſſeſy, hap dyd ſo happen, that my Lorde and maiſter,  
ſtaied in beholding and vewing the Paſture.

Which when I perceiued, what excuſe did I make?  
I came in the croſſe way, on the nerſide the ſoylake,  
Hard by Hodges halfe aker, at gaſſers Millers ſtile.

The next way round about, by the ſpace of a mile,  
Andat Symkins ſide ridge, my Lord ſtoode talking,  
And angerly to me (quoth he) wher haſt thou ben walking  
Withouth any ſtaggering, I had ready my lye,

730

Out



# A new Tragicall Comedie

Out at Bridgemedow, and at Benols lease (quoth I)  
 Your fatlings are feeding well Sir, the Gods be praised,  
 A goodly lounge of beef on them is all redy raised,  
 The outsteps on Frauncis Fabulator that was neuer my friende,  
 How past you Carters hay rocke, at long medow ende  
 There might one (quoth he) within this few dayes,  
 With a cast net had geuen.iiii.knaues great assaies:  
 740 Under the Hedge with a payre of new Cardes both rip and sledge,  
 Is it true quoth my Lorde, will this geare neuer be lefte,  
 This causes swearing, and staring, prouling and theste:  
 Well (quoth my Lorde) take hede least I finde it,  
 And so past his way, and did no more minde it.

Haphazard.

By the Gods that was sport, ye and sport alone,

Manipula.

Hea, but I was in worse case by Saint Ihon,  
 My Lady in Church was set full douout,  
 750 And hearing my comming she tourned aboute:  
 But as soone as I heard hit snappishly sounde,  
 In this sorte I crouched me downe to the grounde,  
 And mannerly Maude, as though I were sad,  
 As soone as the Que then strawed I had,  
 She gaue me a wincke, and frowardly frowne,  
 Whereby I do iudge, she woulde cougell my gowne:  
 Then I dyd deuise, a pety fine planke,  
 A meane whereby to picke me a thanke:  
 Of Margery Mildon the maide of the Milke house,  
 760 And stainer the stutler the guid of the store house,  
 Then was my Ladies anger well gone,  
 And wilbe so still, and the truthe be not knowne.

Haphazard.

Her Lady, barefoote this bakes trimly,

Subseruus.

Nay but I escaped more finely,  
 For I vnder this hedge one while dyd stay,  
 Then in this bushe, then in that way:

Then

of Apius and Virginia.

Then slippt I behind them among all the rest,  
And seemed to common to, of things with the best,  
But so it did happen, that all things were well,  
But hazard it is, least time will truth tell.

770

Haphazard.

Tut, tut, that was but by hap, and if it be so,  
Well sith it was in hazard then let it goo,

Subseruus.

Content by my honestie, then farewell all wo,  
Manipulus.

Come out dogge, ye speake happely of truth if it be so,  
¶ All speake.

780

Now master Haphazard, fare you well for a season,  
Haphazard,

Let my counsell at no time with you be geason.

¶ All speaketh.

No by the Gods, be sure not so,

Haphazard.

Well sith here is no company haue with ye to Jerico. Exit.

Enter Virginius.

Sc. vi

What so the Gods they haue decreed to worke and do by me?  
I meruaile why Iudge Apius he, such gretings lets me see:  
I serued haue his seate, and state, I haue maintaind his weale,  
I haue suppress the rebels skoute, I beare to him such zeale,  
And now he sends to me such charge, vpon my life and lands,  
Without demur, or further pause, or ere ought things be scand,  
That I in hast, with posting speede, to Court I do repaire,  
To aunswer that aleaged is, before his Iudgement Chaire,  
Some Histories they do expresse, when such mishaps do fall,  
They should haue tokens many a one, I haue not one but all:  
My Iuels somtime precious, do bade and beare no hewe,  
My fences they do shun there course, my lights do burne as blew: 800  
My willing wights are waxed slow, that once were swifte in speede  
My hart it rhjobs in wonderous sort, my nose doth often bleede:

Ad.

My

## The Tragickall Comedie

My dreadfull dreames do draw my woe and hatefull hazard hale,  
These tokens be of euell hap, this is the old wiues tale:  
But yet **O** thou Virginius, whose hoary heares are olde,  
Didst treason neuer yet commit, of this thou maist be bould:  
In Mars his games, in marshall seates, thou wast his only aide,  
The huge Carrebd his hazards thou, for him was ofte assaide:  
Was Sillas force by thee oft thunde, or yet Advice lande,

810 Laceface childe that Minnotaur, did cause thee euer stande:  
To pleasure him, to serue thy leach, to keepe all things spright,  
Thou God aboue, then what is it, that yeeldeth me this spight?  
Sith nothing neede misdoubted be, where grounded cause is none,  
I enter will Iudge Apius gate, reiecting care and mone:  
But stay Virginius, loe, thy Prince doth enter into place,  
Oh sufferant Lord, and rightfull Iudge, the Gods do saue thy grace,

### **¶** Here entreth Iudge Apius and Claudius.

With tender hart Virginius, thou welcome art to me,  
820 I fory am to vtter out, the things I here of thee:  
For Claudius a subiecte here, a man of mickle fame,  
Appealeth thee befoze my Courte, in deede of open shame:  
And though in deede I loue thee so, as thy deserts deser,  
Yet not so but I must Iudgement geue, as Justice doth require.

Virginius.

My Lord and reason good it is, your seruaunt doth request,  
No parciall hand to aide his cause, no parciall minde or brest:  
If ought I haue offended you, your Courte, or eke your Crowne,  
From lofty top of Turret hie, perclupetat me downe:  
830 If treason none by me be done, or any fault committed,  
Let my accusers beare the blame, and let me be remitted.

Apus.

Good reason to Virginius, come Claudius shew thy minde,  
Let Justice here, if Iudgment may, Virginius guilty finde

Claudius.

Thou sufferant Lord, and rightfull Iudge, this standeth now **h** case,  
In



of Apius and Virginia.

In tender youth not long ago, nere sixtene yeares of space,  
Virginus a thall of mine, achilde and infant yonge,  
From me did take by subtell meane, and keepe by arme full strong  
And here before your grace I craue, that Iustice be extended, 840  
That I may haue my thall agayne, and faultes may be amended  
Virginus.

Ah Gods that guide the globe about what forged tales I here,  
Oh Judge Apius, bend your eares, while this my crime I cleare:  
She is my child, and of my wife her tender corpes did springe,  
Let all the countrey where I dwell, beare witnesse of the thing.

Apius and Claudius go forth, but Apius speaketh this.

Pay by the Gods not so my friend, I do not so decree,  
I charge thee here in paine of death, thou bring the maide to mee:  
In chamber close, in prison sound, the secret shall abide, 850  
And no kinde of wight shall talke with her, untill the truth be tride:  
This doo I charge, this I commaund, in paine of death let see,  
Without any let, that she be brought, as prisoner vnto me: Exit.

Here let Virginus go about the scaffold

Ah sickle faule, vnahpppy dome, oh most vncertaine rate,  
That euer chaunce so churlishly, that neuer staide in state: (finde?  
What Judge is this: what cruell wretch? what faith doth Claudius  
The Gods do recompence with shame, his false and faithles minde:  
Well home I must, no remedy, where shall my soking teares,  
Augment my woes, decrease my ioyes, while death do rid my feares 860

¶ Here entreth Rumour.

Come Ventus come, blow forth thy blatt,  
Prince Eol listen well,  
The filthiest sackte that euer was,  
I Rumor now shall tell:  
You gods bend downe to here my crie,

D.ij.

re-



The Tragicall Comedie

reuengement dully shoue,  
 Thy Rumor craues did Claudius lay,  
 and bring Iudge Apius loe?  
 870 That wicked man, that fleshly Iudge,  
 hath hired Claudius,  
 To claime a childe, the only heire,  
 of olde Virginius.  
 A virgin pure, a Queene in life,  
 whose state may be deplored,  
 For why the Queene of chaste life,  
 is like to be deflored:  
 By false Iudge Apius cruell wretche,  
 who straightly hath commaunded,  
 880 That she to keeping his be brought,  
 Prince Pluto this demaunded:  
 To kisse I lie to blase abroad,  
 the trompe of depe defame,  
 Reuenge you Gods this Rumor craues,  
 this bloud and blooddy shame:  
 Haue through the ayre, geue place you ayres,  
 this is my dutye done,  
 The Gods confound such lecherers,  
 loe Rumor this I run.

890

Virginius.

O man, O mould, oh mucke, O clay, O Hell, O hellish hounde,  
 O faulse Iudge Apius wrablinge wretch, is this thy treason found:  
 Woe worth the man that gaue the seede, wherby y first didst spring  
 Woe worth the wombe y bare the babe, to meane this bluddy thing:  
 Woe worth the paps that gaue y sucke, woe worth the Fosters eke  
 Woe worth all such as euer did, thy health or liking seeke:  
 Oh that the graued yeares of mine, were couered in the clay

¶ Here entreth Virginia.

Let pacience deare father mine, your rigor something stay,  
 900 Why do you waile in such a soyte? why do you weepe and mone?

Virgi-

of Apius and Virginia.

Virinius

Oh doughter deare and only heyre, my life is neare forgone,  
And all for loue of thee

Virginia.

A Gods how may this be?

Deare father do withdraue your dread, and let me know the cause,  
My selfe wyll apde with lyfe or death, without demur or pause:  
Then tender your childe, that craueth this bound.

Virinius

Oh harken deare daughter attend thou my sounde :

910

Judge Apius pickt forth with filthy desire:

Thy person as Lemmon, doth greatly requyre:

And no kinde of intreatie, no feare nor no shame,

Will he heare aledge, defending the same:

And straight without staying in paine of my death,

I must bring thee thither, wherfore stop my breath,

O Sisters, I searce, I seeke, and I craue,

No more at your handes, but death for to haue ,

Rather then see my Daughter deslourde,

O els in ill sorte, so vildely deuourde.

920

Virginia.

Oh father, oh friendship, oh fatherly fauour,

Whose dulcet words, so sweetly do saour,

On knees I beseeche thee to graunt my request,

In all things accoording, as lyketh thee best:

Thou knowest, O my father, if I be once spotted,

My name and my kindred, then forth wilbe blotted:

And if thou my father, should die for my cause,

The world would accompt me as guilty in cause :

Then rather deare father, if it be thy pleasure,

Graunt me the death, then keepe I my treasure?

930

My Lampe, my light, my life vndefiled,

And so may Judge Apius, of flesh be begiled:

This vpon my knees with humble behest,

Graunt me O father my instant requeste.

D.iiij.

Virinius.

A new Tragicall Comedie

Virinius

Then ryse vp my daughter, my aunswere doo note,  
From mouth of thy father, whose eyes do now dote:  
O daughter, oh deare, O darling, oh dame,  
940 Dispatch me I pray thee, regarde not my name:  
But yet, as thou saiest sith remedy none,  
But Lemmon thou must be, if I were gone,  
And better it is to dye with good fame,  
Then longer to liue to reape vs but shame:  
But if thou do dye, no doubt is at all,  
But presently after my selfe follow shall,  
Then end without shame so let vs perseuer,  
With trompe of good fame so dye shall we neuer.

Virginia here kneeleth.

950 Then tender armes complect the neck, doo dye thy fathers teares,  
Thou nimble handes for wo whereof, my louing hart it weares:  
Oh father mine, refraine no whit, your sharped knife to take,  
From giltles sheath, my shame to ende, and body dead to make:  
Let not the shameles bloudy iudge, defile my virgins life,  
Doe take my head and send it him, vpon your bloudy knife:  
Bid him imbue his bloudy handes, in giltles bloud of mee:  
I virgin dye, he leacher liues, he was my ende you see:  
No more delayes, lo kisse me first, then stretch your strongest arme,  
Do ryd my woe, increase my ioy, do ease your childe of harme.

Virinius.

960 O weary wittes of wo, or wealth, oh feble aged man,  
How can thy arme geue such a blow, thy death I wishe thee than:  
But sith that shame with endles trompe, wil sounde if case thou ioy,  
By meanes of false iudge Apus he, my selfe will thee destroy:  
Forgeue me babe this bloudy deede, and meekely take thy ende,

Here let him profer a blowe,

The Gods forgeue thee father deare, farewell, thy blow do bend:  
Yet stay a whyle, o father deare, for death to death is fraile,  
Let first my wimple bind my eyes, and then thy blow assaile.  
970 Now father worke thy will on me, that life I may inioy.

Here



of Apius and Virginia.

Here tye a handcarcher aboute hir eyes, and then  
Strike of hir heade.

Now stretch thy hand Virginus, that loth would flesh destroy.  
O cruell handes, or blouddy knife, o man what hast thou done,  
Thy daughter deare, and onely heyre, hir vitall ende hath wone:  
Come fatall blade make lyke dispatche, come Atropos, come ende,  
Strike home thou careles arme with speede, of death be not afrayde.

Here entreth Comfort.

O noble knight Virginus, do stay, be not dismayde.  
I curing Comfort present am, your dolle to ayde:

980

Virginus.

Sith ioy is gone, sith life is deade:  
What comfort can there be?  
Romore there is but deepe dispaire,  
And deadly death to me:

Comfort:

Romore Sir knight, but take the head, and wende a while with me,  
It shalbe sent to court, for that Iudge Apius may it se,  
In recompence of leachors lust, this present let him haue,  
And stay your corps for certaine space, in coping from the graue:  
So shall you see the end of him, and all his whole consent.  
This wilbe comfort to your harte, Virginus be content.

990

Virginus.

O truth euen so, for Comfort els, I know, right well is none,  
Wherefore I doe consent with you, come on let vs be gone:  
But messenger my selfe wyll bee, my selfe will geue the gifte,  
Come on good Comfort, wend we then, there is no other thiste

Here entreth Iudge Apius.

Exit.

Sc. vii

Well hap as can hap, or no,  
In hazard it is but let that goe,  
I wyll what so happen per sue on still,  
Why none there is liuing, can let me my wyll:  
I will haue Virginia, I will hir defloure,  
Els rigorous sword, hir hart shall deuoure.

1000



A new Tragi call Comedie  
Heere entreth Haphazard.

I came from Caleco euen the same houre,  
And Hap was hyed to hackney in hempstred,  
In hazard he was of riding on beamestred,  
Then crow crop on tree top hoist vp the sayle,  
1010 Then groined their neckes, by the weight of their tayle,  
Then dyd Carnifex, put these thre together,  
Payd them their pasporte for clustring thither.

Apius.

Why how now Haphazard, of what doest thou speake?  
He thinks in mad sort, thy talke thou doest breake,  
Those thre words chopt all in one,  
Is Carnifex that signifieth a Hangman:  
Peace no such words befoze me do vtter,

Haphazard.

1020 Nay I lye as still as a Cat in a gutter.  
Go to Iudge Apius, go forward good Prince,  
Perhaps ye may haue that, the which wyl not blince.

Apius.

What is the man that liueth now so neare to doore of death?  
As I for lust of Lady faire, whose lacke will stop my bryeth:  
But long I shall not want her sight, I stay her coniming heere,  
Oh lucky light, lo present heere hir father doth appeare,  
Oh how I ioy, yet bragge thou not, Dame beuty hides behinde,  
Virginus, where is the maide? how haps thou breakes my minde?

1030

Here entreth Virginus.

Oh wicked Iudge the Virgin chaste,  
Hath sent her beutious face,  
In recompence of Lechour gaine,  
To thee so boide of grace:  
She bids thee imbue thy bloudy handes,  
And althy Leche rous minde:

With

of Apius and Virginia.

With Venus Damselfs boyde of shame,  
Where such thou haps to finde:  
But thou as with Dianas ympes,  
Salt neuer be acquainted.  
They rather wishe the naked knife,  
Then Virgins life attainted:  
In ende iust profe whereof,  
Beholde Virginias heade:  
She sought hir fame, thou soughts hir shame,  
This arme hath smit her dead.

1040

Apius.

Oy curst and cruell cankerd churle, oy carll vnnaturall,  
Which hast the seede of thine owne lym, thrust forth to funerall:  
We Gods bend downe your yre, do plague him for his deede,  
You sprites below, you hellish houndes, do geue him gaule for meed:  
My selfe will se his latter end, I Iudge him to the death,  
Like death that faire Virginia toke, the lyke shall stop his breath:  
Then flakky feends of Lynbo lake, his ghost do so toymoyle,  
That he haue neede of Carons helpe, for all his filthy toyle:  
Come Iustice then, come on Rewarde, come ayde me in my neede,  
Thou wicked knight shal slaughter be, w self same knife with speed.

1050

Virginus.

Sith she a virgine pure and chaste, in heauen leades hir life,  
Content I am to dye with her, and dye vpon her knife.

1060

Apius.

Come Iustice then, come on reward, when Iudgment now doth cal.

**W**heere entreth Iustice and Reward.

And they both speake this.

We both are ready here at hande, to worke thy fatall fall.

Iustice.

Oy gorgan Iudge, what lawles life hast thou most wicked led?  
Thy soking sinne hath sonke thy soule, thy vertues all are fled:  
Thou chaste and vndefiled life didest seeke for to haue spotted,  
And thy Reward is ready here, by Iustice now allotted.

1070

E

## The Tragicall Comedie

Rewarde.

Thy iust Reward, is deadly death, wherfore come wend away,  
To death I straight will do thy corps, then iust shall haue his pray:  
Virginus thou wofull knight, come neare and take thy foe,  
In prison thou make him fast, no moze let him do so:  
Let Claudius for tirrany be hanged on a tree.

Virginus.

Ah right Reward, the Gods be blis,  
This day I chaunce to see.

1080

Haphazard.

Why how now my lord Apius, what cheare?  
Why where is my Reward for this geare?  
Why dyd I ride run and reuell,  
And for all my saunting now am made a Iauell?  
Why run sir knaue call me Claudius?  
Then run with a vengeaunce watch Virginus,  
Then ride sirra, is Virginia at Church,  
Then gallope to see where her father doth lurche,  
Then by sirra, now what counsell?

1090

Of Dame bewty what newes canst thou tell?  
Thus in hurly burly from pillar to poste,  
Dooze Haphazard daily was toste,  
And now with Virginus he goes sadly walking,  
And nothing at all will listen my talking,  
But shall I be so bled at his hands,  
As leue I were neare in Limbo bands,  
That Dionel, that drowly Drakenosed diuill,  
He neuer learned his manners in Siuill:  
A Iudge may cause a gentleman, a gentleman nay a iack hearinge,  
1100 As honest as he that caries his hoke on his neck for feare of wering  
A Caitife, a Cutthrote, a churle worthy blame,  
I wyll serue him no longer the Deuill geue him shame:  
Yet by the House foote, I am not content,  
I will haue a reward sure els will I repent,  
To master reward I straight waies will go,

The



of Apius and Virginia.

The worst that can hap is but a noo :  
But sure I know his honesty is such,  
That he will recompence me, with litle or much :  
And well this prouerb commeth in my head,  
Birlady halfe a loafe is better then nere a whit of bread,  
Therefore hap, and be happely, hap that hap may,  
I wyll put it in hazard, I geue it allay:  
Alhaye, maister Reward and rightuous Iustice,  
I beseech you let me be recompenced to, according to my seruice,  
For why all this long time I haue liued in hope,

1110

Rewarde.

Then for thy reward, then here is a rope.

Haphazard.

May softe my maisters by saincte Thomas of trunions,  
I am not disposed to by of your onions :  
A rope (quoth you) away with that showing,  
It would greue a man hauing two plowes goyng,  
May stay I pray you, and let the Cat winke,  
It is naught in dry sommer, for letting my drynke.

1120

Iustice.

Let or let not there is no remedy, hanging shalbe thy reward verely

Haphazard.

Is there nothing but hanging to my lot doth fall,  
Then take you my rewarde much good doo it you withall.  
I am not so hasty although I be clayming,  
But that I can asord you, the most of my gayning:  
I wyll set, let, graunt, yelde, permit and promise,  
All the reuenewes to you of my seruice :  
I am friendly, I am kindly, I proffer you saire,  
You shall be my ful executor and heyre.

1130

Reward.

May make you ready first to dye by the roode,  
Then we will dispoise it as we think it good:  
Then those that with you to this dyd consent,  
e lyke reward shall cause them repent.

1140

E.ii.



The Tragicall Comedie

Justice

Nay stay a while Virginius is comming,  
 Nay soft Haphazard you are not so cunning,  
 Thus to escape without punishment,  
 Rewarde.

prece to go  
foorth.

No certis it is not so expedient,

¶ Here entreth Virginius.

1150 Oh noble Iustice duty done, behold I come againe,  
To shew you that Apius he him selfe hath lewdly slaine,  
As soone as he in prison was enclosed out of sight.  
He desperate for bluddy deede, did slea him selfe out right,  
And Claudius doth mercy craue who did the deede for feare,  
Woutchsafe oh Iudge to saue his life, though countrie he forbear.  
Iustice.

We graunt him grace at thy request, but bannish him the lande.  
And see that death be done out right on him that here doth stand.  
Haphazard.

1160 *May M. Virginius take him by the hande  
I craue not for seruice the thing worth ought,  
Hanging quoth you, it is the last end of my thought  
Fye for shame fye, stay by my fathers soule,  
Why this is like to Tom turners doule.  
Hang one man, and saue all the rest,  
Take part one with another, plaine dealing is best.  
Rewarde.*

This is our dealing, thus deale we with thee,  
Take him hence Virginius goe trusse him to a tree.  
Haphazard.

We shall in a ropes name, whether away with me.  
1170                      Virginius.

Come wend thou in haste, thy death for to take,  
To the hangman I will leade thee, a quicke dispatch to make.

of Apius and Virginia.

Haphazard.

Must I needes hange, by the gods it doth spight me,  
To thinke how crabbedly this ilke lase will bite me:  
Then come cosin cutpurs, come runne haste and solow me,  
Haphazard, must hange, come solow the lyuerie.

Exit.

Iustice.

Well wende we now the finall ende of fleshy lust wee see.

Reward.

1180

Content Rewarde is ready bent with Iustice to agree.

¶ Here entreth Fame.

O stay, you noble Iustice stay, Reward do make no haste,  
We Ladies thye haue brought y<sup>e</sup> Coyle in earth that must be plaste.

Doctrina and Memorie and Virginius  
bring a tome.

We haue brought backe Virginius, the funerall to see,  
I graunt him that the learned pen shall haue the ayde of mee :  
To wright in learned verse the honor of hir name.

Fame.

1190

And eke it shall resownd by trompe of me Dame Fame.

¶ Here let Memorie wright  
on the tome.

I Memorie will minde hir life, hir death shall euer raine.  
Within the mouth and minde of man, from age to age againe.

Iustice.

A d Iustice sure will ayde all those that immitate hir lyfe.

Rewarde.

warde will punnish those that moue such dames to crye

E.iiij.

F a

A new Tragicall Comedie

1200

Fame.

Then sing we round about the Tome in honour of his name,  
Reward.

Content we are with willing minde to sing with sound of Fame.

¶ The Epilogue.

AS earthly life is graunted none for euermore to raigne,  
But denting death wil cause them al to grant this world as vaine  
Right worshipfull sith sure it is that mortall life must bade,  
Do practise then to winne his loue that all in all hath made:  
And by this Poets faining here example do you take,

1210

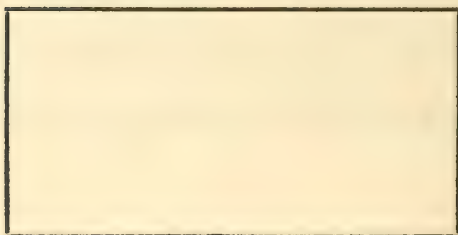
Of Virginias life, of chasterie, of duty to thy make.  
Of loue to wife, of loue to spouse, of loue to husband deare,  
Of bringing vp of tender youth, all these are noted heare:  
I doubt it not right worshipful, but well you do conceiue,  
The matter that is ended now, and thus I take my leaue:  
Beseeching God as dutie is, our gracious Queene to saue,  
The Nobles, and the commons eke, with prosperous life I craue.

¶ *FINIS.*

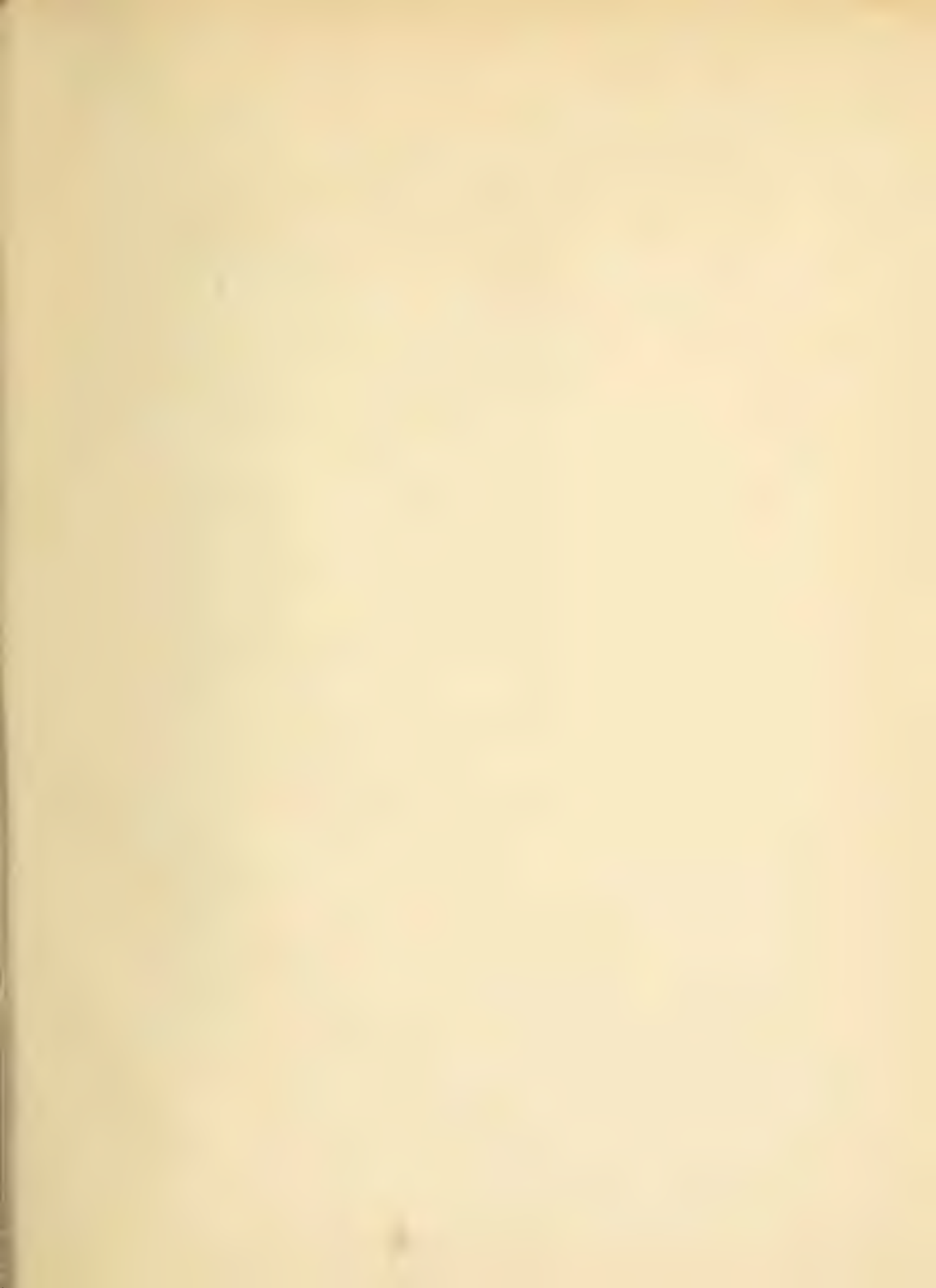
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